

MATANEL FOUNDATION
ACTIVITY REPORT – Matanel Perach Zahav

Name of the School: The Ruth Z. Korman Pelech School for Girls. Kiryat Ekron

Name of the Director: Mrs. Sandrin Elbaum-Bouhnik

Academic year of activity: 2018-2019

Name of the report's writer: Ronit Korem and Sandrin Elbaum-Bouhnik

Function of the report's writer: School Principal and Project Coordinator

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Give the actually state of the program (where the program stands at the date of the activity report, no more than ten lines):

Each week, throughout the school year, a group of 30 senior citizens join our school for a day of studies and experiences. Each week a different class of high school students join this special group and an exceptional bond between them is created.

The weekly lectures that are offered include, Computer Studies, English, Tanach, and Citizenship. In addition to these weekly lectures, we continue with great pride, the **Matanel Perach Zahav** Program, which included a series of unique lectures, activities and outings that are weaved into the weekly meetings. The **Matanel Perach Zahav** Program continues to be an enormous upgrade to the weekly classes and continues to play an invaluable role in creating a unique, continuous and treasured connection between the generations.

This wonderful group of people continue to meet weekly and our hope is that we can continue to provide them with the enrichment and continuity of this wonderful program.

The main achievements during the last year of activity:

-Activity with the eighth grade in Jerusalem, with a thrilling sound & light show at the Chain of Generations Center, which tells the story of the Jewish nation over the eras.

This trip also included a visit to the visitors' center at Yad Sarah, an organization that assists patients and their families by lending out medical equipment. The students and seniors volunteered together and assembled crutches for those who need them.

-Birthday celebrations for the seniors: Each month, the girls celebrated the birthdays of those who were born that month.

-Marking Family Day with an interactive theater workshop on the topic of family, with the ninth grade students.

- Tu Be'Shvat celebration with the eighth grade.
- Visit to the Invitation to Silence exhibition at the Holon Museum with the tenth-grade students. The exhibition describes the world of the deaf and coping with a silent world.
- Before this trip, a preparatory session was held to discuss inter-generational communication. Are our voices heard? Is anyone listening?
- Before Passover, the senior class met with the eleventh-grade students to discuss the topic of passing on tradition to the next generation. The senior participants shared stories with the younger ones about how the holiday was celebrated by their different ethnic groups, the traditional foods they ate, and their family customs.
- The senior participants were included in ceremonies held at school.
- The senior class and our ninth-grade students visited the Beta Israel village in Kiryat Gat, a site that recreates life in Ethiopia. This was an excellent opportunity to learn about the customs, traditional foods, and culture of the Ethiopian Jewish community.
- The high school students and seniors heard a talk given by a convert, before the Shavuot holiday.
- The seniors visited an exhibition prepared by the 12th grade art class, and enjoyed a guided tour given by the students.
- As part of a project called A Historical Site Comes to Life, the students studied a literary work, Kinnert, Kinnert, and the 10th grade theater class put on a performance inspired by this work at the historical orchard site in Rehovot, along with the seniors.
- The seniors and seventh graders attended a carpentry workshop where they built benches, relaxation areas, and picnic tables that were placed on the school grounds, where the students and seniors could enjoy them.

The evaluation (methodology, results, comparisons with the precedent year, conclusions for the future...):

The model that we built and followed for this program continues to be beneficial and successful. Our team of staff members continue to be dedicated and motivated towards continuing the "Matanel Perach Zahav" program. The group continues to meet weekly, and our students interact and participate eagerly with this special group of people. Our hope is to be able to continue to provide this ongoing weekly light, and connection through generations. We see this group of seniors as an integral part of our school.

Provisional guide lines for the advancement of the program in the next year (please give the number of students, the number of classes and the main guidelines of the project in case where such project is implemented in your school):

The project continues to provide a weekly series of activities for an average of 32 senior citizens in the Kiryat Ekron area. The middle and high school classes (average of 32 students in each class) take turns in joining the class for weekly sessions, celebrations and activities. With the dedicated leadership and guidance from staff, the group dynamic continues to be extremely successful.